

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 201505  
ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 HA-05 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02  
SS-15 ICA-11 /082 R

DRAFTED BY L/HR:CRUNYON:RTG

APPROVED BY L/HR:CRUNYON

HA - MR. MAXIM

L/AF - MRS. ELY

AF/S - MR. TAYLOR

-----018449 092207Z /15

P 092106Z AUG 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 201505

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, SHUM

SUBJECT: TRIAL OF SSRC 11

REF: JOHANNESBURG 1845

1. PRELIMINARY STUDY OF CHARGES LAID AGAINST 11 MEMBERS OF SOWETO STUDENTS REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL SUGGESTS TRIAL WILL BE IMPORTANT IN A NUMBER OF WAYS, INCLUDING (A) QUESTION OF OPPORTUNITY FOR EFFECTIVE DEFENSE, (B) QUESTION OF PRE-TRIAL TREATMENT, (C) QUESTION OF PERCEPTION OF TRIAL IN SA AND OVERSEAS. CONTRASTS ARE SUGGESTED BETWEEN ORIGIN AND CHARACTER OF INITIAL PROTESTS AND ACTUAL FACTS ALLEGED IN CASE, ON ONE HAND, AND HANDLING AND ULTIMATE CHARACTERIZATIONS OF DEFENDANTS UNDER SEDITION AND TERRORISM STATUTES, ON THE OTHER. IS THERE ELEMENT OF SHOW TRIAL FOR NAT CON-  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 201505

STITUENCY AND IF, SO, IS IT TIMED FOR PARTICULAR REASONS? IS SAG UNAWARE OF OR UNCONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE EFFECTS ON BLACK AND OVERSEAS OBSERVERS? EMBASSY ASSESSMENTS AND BACKGROUND COMMENT THESE AND OTHER QUESTIONS WILL BE VERY HELPFUL IN UNDERSTANDING MATTER AS IT MOVES ALONG.

2. TIMELY PUBLICATION OF SAIRR BOOK ON INSTITUTE'S EVIDENCE

RE SOWETO TO CILLIE COMMISSION COMPILED BY M. J.G.E.  
WOLFSON IS NOTED IN BEGIN UNDERSCORE THE VOICE END

UNDERSCORE (8/5/78). PLEASE AIR POUCH OR MAIL COPIES BOOK  
(ATTENTION AF/S AND L/HR) AT EARLY CONVENIENCE. ANY OTHER  
RELEVANT PUBLISHED FACTUAL DATA COULD BE HELPFUL, INCLUDING  
REFERENCE IMPORTANT PRIOR SENDINGS.

3. DEPT WILL BE INTERESTED CURRENT REPORTING ANY INDICATIONS  
INTERFERENCE FROM ANY QUARTER WITH FREE DISCHARGE BY DEFENSE  
TEAM OF ITS LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES ON BEHALF OF DEFENDANTS.  
HOW IS TEAM PRESENTLY COMPRISED? WHAT IS KNOWN ABOUT PHYSICAL  
AND MENTAL STATE OF DEFENDANTS? TREATMENT SINCE FIRST  
DETAINED? POSSIBILITIES OTHER SUCH TRIALS TO FOLLOW?

4. BELIEVE THAT TO EXTENT AVAILABLE, INFORMATION ON INDIVIDUAL  
DEFENDANTS - WHERE FROM, AGE, EDUCATION, CHURCH AND OTHER  
AFFILIATIONS, FAMILY BACKGROUND, EMPLOYMENT, LEADERSHIP  
ROLES, SKILLS, ETC. - WILL PROVE USEFUL HERE. CHRISTOPHER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TRIALS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE201505  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** CRUNYON:RTG  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780326-0724  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780881/aaaacpvd.tel  
**Line Count:** 82  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** d8d7ea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN L  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 JOHANNESBURG 1845  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1788782  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TRIAL OF SSRC 11  
**TAGS:** PINS, PINT, SHUM  
**To:** PRETORIA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/d8d7ea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014